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A BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM FOR AN INFINITE ELASTIC STRIP WITH A SEMI-INFINITE CRACK

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In this talk we study a boundary value problem in a two-dimensional infinite elastic strip with a semi-infinite crack (cf. [7] in References).

By $u = (u_i)_{i=1,2,3}$ and $\sigma = (\sigma_{ij})_{i,j=1,2,3}$ we denote the displacement vector and the stress tensor, respectively. Let

$$\Omega = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1 \in \mathbb{R}, -a < x_2 < a\} \quad (a > 0)$$

be a strip in \mathbb{R}^2 , representing a homogeneous isotropic elastic plate in the state of a plane strain. Then, the linearized elasticity equations for a homogeneous isotropic material consist of the constitutive law (Hooke's law) and the equilibrium conditions without any body forces. On the boundaries of the strip

$$\partial\Omega_+ = \{(x_1, a) \mid x_1 \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad \text{and} \quad \partial\Omega_- = \{(x_1, -a) \mid x_1 \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions are imposed, respectively. We denote by

$$\Gamma = \{(x_1, 0) \mid -\infty < x_1 \leq 0\}$$

the crack in Ω . On the crack we assume the free traction condition.

Then, our problem is to find u satisfying

$$(P) \begin{cases} \sigma_{ij,j} \equiv Au = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \setminus \Gamma, \\ \sigma_{ij}^+ \nu_j = \sigma_{ij}^- \nu_j = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma^\pm, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega_-, \\ \sigma_{ij} \nu_j \equiv Tu = p & \text{on } \partial\Omega_+. \end{cases}$$

Here and in what follows we use the summation convention. In the problem (P) $p = (p_1, p_2)^T$ is a given vector of continuous functions on $\partial\Omega_+$ and $\nu = (\nu_1, \nu_2)^T$ is the unit outward normal and

$$A \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \mu\Delta + (\lambda + \mu)\partial_1^2 & (\lambda + \mu)\partial_1\partial_2 \\ (\lambda + \mu)\partial_1\partial_2 & \mu\Delta + (\lambda + \mu)\partial_2^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\Delta \equiv \partial_1^2 + \partial_2^2,$$

$$T \equiv \begin{pmatrix} (\lambda + 2\mu)\nu_1\partial_1 + \mu\nu_2\partial_2 & \mu\nu_2\partial_1 + \lambda\nu_1\partial_2 \\ \lambda\nu_2\partial_1 + \mu\nu_1\partial_2 & \mu\nu_1\partial_1 + (\lambda + 2\mu)\nu_2\partial_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where λ and μ are Lamé constants satisfying that shearing strain $\mu > 0$, modulus of compression $3\lambda + 2\mu \geq 0$, in which case it is easy to see that the operator A is elliptic. And Γ^\pm means both sides of Γ . Here for every $x \in \Gamma$, $\sigma_{ij}^\pm \nu_j = \sigma_{ij}^\pm(x) \nu_j(x)$ means the limit of $\sigma_{ij}^\pm(\bar{x}) \nu_j(x)$ as $\bar{x} \in \Omega \setminus \Gamma$

tends to $x \in \Gamma$ along the normal $\nu(x)$. The limit values σ_{ij}^+ and σ_{ij}^- may be different in general, therefore σ_{ij} may have a jump on Γ . At end-point of Γ (i. e. $(0,0)$) we assume

$$\lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \sigma_{ij} \nu_j |_{x \in \Gamma \setminus \{(0,0)\}} = 0.$$

We introduce the class \mathcal{K} of functions $u(x)$ with the properties (cf. [8]):

1. $u \in C^0(\overline{\Omega \setminus \Gamma}) \cap C^2(\Omega \setminus \Gamma)$,
2. $\nabla u \in C^0(\overline{\Omega \setminus \Gamma} \setminus \{(0,0)\})$,
3. in the neighborhood of $(0,0)$ there exist positive constant C and $\epsilon > -1$ such that

$$|\nabla u(x)| \leq C |x|^\epsilon \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow 0,$$

4. for every $x \in \partial\Omega_\pm$ there exists a uniform limit of $\nabla_{\bar{x}} u(\bar{x})$ as $\bar{x} \in \Omega \setminus \Gamma$ tends to $x \in \partial\Omega_\pm$ along the normal ν_x .

Furthermore, the class \mathcal{U} is defined by

$$\mathcal{U} = \{u \mid u \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } |x| \rightarrow \infty\}$$

and

$$C_\gamma^{0,\alpha} = \{f(x) \in C^{0,\alpha} \mid f(x) = O(|x|^{-\gamma}) \text{ as } |x| \rightarrow \infty\} \quad (1 < \gamma).$$

The usage of the plane elastic single and double layer potentials reduces the problem (P) to a system of singular integral equations. It is shown that this system is uniquely solvable in the appropriate Hölder spaces by the Fredholm alternative (cf. [2, 10, 11]).

Theorem. *The problem (P) has a unique solution $u \in \mathcal{K} \cap \mathcal{U}$ for any $p \in C_\gamma^{0,\alpha}(\partial\Omega_+)$ with any $\alpha \in (0,1)$ and any $\gamma > 1$.*

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